

EN
E-003457/2026
Answer given by Mr Kadis
on behalf of the European Commission
(9.10.2026)

Under Regulation (EC) 1005/2008¹, any unauthorised fishing activity of third-country fishing vessels into a Member State's territorial sea constitutes illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing. The Member State is primarily responsible for safeguarding their waters, inspecting suspicious vessels, and applying effective, proportionate sanctions. Within their jurisdictions, Member States can intensify risk-based checks, impose sanctions and enforce measures to combat illegal activities. The Commission remains closely engaged with the Greek authorities.

In the multilateral context, notably the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and its Compliance Committee, the EU recalls the importance attached to the fight against IUU fishing from GFCM members' fishing vessels in Member States' waters and calls for enhanced technical cooperation to combat IUU fishing in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

In relation to Türkiye, respect for international law and good neighbourly relations form part of the overall political dialogue under the EU-Türkiye association framework. Any possible discussions on strengthening economic and trade relations would be conducted in line with Council guidance, in compliance with relevant EU rules and the Union's interests.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/EN/legal-content/summary/eliminating-illegal-unreported-and-unregulated-iuu-fishing.html>.